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Walker's  
COMPLETE PICTURE  
OF  
HUMAN LIFE,  
OR  
*Variety of Mental Food,*  
INCLUDING  
VALUABLE MATTER,  
CALCULATED FOR THE  
PLEASURE AND INSTRUCTION  
OF READERS OF EVERY CLASS.

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“ From Flow’r to Flow’r, from Tree to Tree,  
“ Culling of Sweets—thus roves the Bee,  
“ And in one fragrant Heap we find,  
“ The Quintessence of all combin’d.”

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WALKER'S  
PICTURE  
OF  
HUMAN LIFE.

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*The Way of the World.*

**I**T is usually said by grammarians, that the use of language is to express our wants and desires ; but men acquainted with the world, hold, and I think with some shew of reason, that he who best knows how to keep his necessities private, is the most likely person to have them redressed ; and that the true use of speech is not so much to express our wants, as to conceal them.

When we reflect on the manner in which mankind generally confer their favours, there appears something so attractive in riches, that the large heap generally collects from the smaller : and the poor find as much pleasure in increasing the enormous mass of the rich, as the miser, who owns it, sees happiness in its increase. Nor is there in this any thing repugnant to the laws of morality. Seneca himself allows, that in conferring benefits, the present should always be suited to the dignity of the receiver. Thus, the rich receive large presents, and are thanked for accepting them. Men of middling stations



are obliged to be content with presents something less ; while the beggar, who may be truly said to want indeed, is well paid if a farthing rewards his warmest solicitations.

Every man who has seen the world, and has had his *ups* and *downs* in life, as the expression is, must have frequently experienced the truth of this doctrine ; and must know, to have much, or to seem to have it, is the only way to have more. Ovid finely compares a man of broken fortune to a falling column ; the lower it sinks, the greater is that weight it is obliged to sustain. Thus, when a man's circumstances are such that he has no occasion to borrow, he finds numbers willing to lend him ; but should his wants be such that he sues for a trifle, it is two to one whether he may be trusted with the smallest sum. A certain young fellow whom I knew, whenever he had occasion to ask his friend for a guinea, used to precede his request, as if he wanted two hundred ; and talked so familiarly of large sums, that none could ever think that he wanted a small one. The same gentleman whenever he wanted credit for a suit of clothes, always made the proposal in a fine coat ; for he found by experience, that, if he appeared shabby on these occasions, his tailor had taken an oath against trusting ; or, what was as bad, his foreman was out of the way, and would not be at home for some time.

There can be no inducement to reveal our wants, except to find pity, and by that means relief ; but before a poor man opens his mind in such circumstances, he should first consider, whether he is contented to lose the esteem of the person he solicits, and whether he is willing to give up friendship to excite compassion. Pity and friendship are passions incompatible with each other. Friendship is made up of esteem and pleasure ; pity is composed of sorrow and contempt ; the mind may, for some time, fluctuate between them, but it can never entertain both at once.



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In fact, pity, though it may often relieve, is but, at best, a short-lived passion, and seldom affords distress more than a transitory assistance : with some it scarce lasts from the first impulse till the hand can be put into the pockets ; with others, it may continue for twice that space : and on some, of extraordinary sensibility, I have seen it operate for half an hour together ; but still, last as it may, it generally produces beggarly effects ; and where from this motive, we give five fathings, from others we give pounds. Whatever be our feelings from the first impulse of distress, when the same distress solicits a second, we then feel with diminished sensibility ; and, like the repetition of an echo, every stroke becomes weaker ; 'till at last, our sensations lose all mixture of sorrow, and degenerate into downright contempt.

These speculations bring to my mind the fate of a very good-natured fellow, who is now no more. He was bred in a compting-house, and his father dying just as he was out of his time, left him an handsome fortune, and many friends to advise with. The restraint in which my friend had been brought up, had thrown a gloom upon his temper, which some regard as prudence : and, from such considerations he had every day repeated offers of friendship. Such as had money, were ready to offer him their assistance that way ; and they who had daughters, frequently, in the warmth of affection, advised him to marry. My friend, however, was in good circumstances : he wanted neither money, friends, nor a wife ; and therefore, modestly declined their proposals.

Some errors, however, in the management of his affairs, and several losses in trade, soon brought him to a different way of thinking ; and he at last considered, that it was his best way to let his friends know that their offers were at length acceptable. His first address was to a scrivener, who had formerly made him frequent offers of money and friendship,

at a time, when, perhaps, he knew those offers would have been refused, he requested the use of an hundred guineas for a few days, as he just then had occasion for money. "And pray, Sir," replied the scrivener, "do you want all this money?" "Want it, Sir," says the other, "if I did not want it, I should not have asked it." "I am sorry for that," says the friend, "for those who want money when they borrow, will always want money when they should come to pay. To say the truth, Sir, money is money now ; and I believe it is all sunk to the bottom of the sea, for my part ; he that has got a little, is a fool if he does not keep what he has got."

Not quite disconcerted at this refusal, our adventurer was resolved to apply to another, who he knew was the very best friend he had in the world. The gentleman whom he now addressed, received his proposal with all the affability that could be expected from generous friendship. "Let me see—you want an hundred guineas—and pray dear Jack, would not fifty answer?" "If you have but fifty to spare, Sir, I must be contented." "Fifty to spare! I do not say that; for I have but twenty about me." "Then I must borrow the other thirty from some other friend."—"And pray," replied the friend, "would it not be the best way to borrow the whole sum from that other friend, and then one note will serve for all, you know? You know, my dear Sir, that you need make no ceremony with me at any time ; you know I am your friend ; and when you choose a bit of dinner or so—You Tom ! see the gentleman down. You won't forget to dine with us now and then.—Your very humble servant."

Distressed, but not discouraged, at this treatment, he was at last resolved to find that assistance from love, which he could not have from friendship. A young lady, a distant relation by the mother's side, had a fortune in her own hands ; and, as she had



already made all the advances that her sex's modesty would permit, he made his proposals with confidence. He soon, however, perceived, that no bankrupt ever found the fare one kind. She had lately fallen deeply in love with another, who had more money, and the whole neighbourhood thought it would be a match.

Every day now began to strip my poor friend of his former finery ; his clothes flew, piece by piece, to the pawnbroker's, and he seemed at length, equipped in the general livery of misfortune. But still he thought himself secure from actual necessity ; the numberless invitations he had received to dine, even after his losses, were yet unanswered ; he was therefore now resolved to accept of a dinner, because he wanted one ; and in this manner he actually lived upon his friends a whole week, without being openly affronted. The last place I saw him in, was at a reverend divine's. He had, as he fancied, just *nicked* the time of dinner ; for he came in as the cloth was laying. He took a chair without being desired, and talked for some time without being attended to. He assured the company that nothing procured so good an appetite as a walk in the Park, where he had been that morning. He went on and praised the figure of the damask table-cloth ; talked of a feast where he had been the day before, but that the venison was overdone : but all this procured him no invitation. Finding, therefore, the gentleman of the house insensible to all his fetches, he thought proper at last to retire, and mend his appetite by a second walk in the park.

You, then, O ye beggars of my acquaintance, whether in rags or lace ; whether Kent-street or the Mall ; whether at Smyrna or at St. Giles's ; might I be permitted to advise, as a friend, never seem to want the favour which you solicit. Apply to every passion but human pity, for redress : you may find permanent relief from vanity, from self-interest, or

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from avarice : but from compassion, never. The very eloquence of a poor man is disgusting : and that mouth which is opened, even by Wisdom, is seldom expected to close without the horrors of a petition.

To ward off the gripe of Poverty, you must pretend to be a stranger to her, and she will at least use you with ceremony. If you be caught dining upon a half-penny porringer of pease soup and potatoes, praise the wholesomeness of your frugal repast : you may observe that Dr. Cheyne has prescribed pease-broth for the gravel ; hint that you are not one of those who are always making a deity of your belly. If, again, you are obliged to wear flimsy stuff in the midst of winter, be the first to remark, that stuffs are very much worn at Paris ; or, if there be found some irreparable defects in any part of your equipage, which cannot be concealed by all the arts of sitting cross-legged, coaxing, or darning, say, that neither you nor Sampson Gideon were ever fond of dress. If you be a philosopher, hint that Plato, or Seneca, are the tailors you choose to employ ; assure the company that man ought to be content with a bare covering ; since what now is so much his pride, was formerly his shame. In short, however caught never give out ; but ascribe to the frugality of your disposition, what others might be apt to attribute to the narrowness of your circumstances. To be poor, and to seem poor is a certain method never to rise : pride in the great is hateful ; in the wise it is ridiculous : but beggarly pride is a rational vanity, which I have been taught to applaud and excuse.



*Kintair & Seaton;*

OR,

## THE UNFORTUNATE SISTERS.

IN the north-west parts of Scotland, in the reign of Malcolm, the cotempoary with the usurper Macbeth, whose history our immortal Shakespear has made the subject of one of his tragedies, there lived two young noblemen, at the head of two parties, the mortal enemies of one another. Scarcely a week passed, at those times when the families were near one another, without accounts of rapes, of duels, and of private murders : for the hatred was so universally strong through the whole multitude, that from the lord to the meanest servant, all thought it a merit, and an honour, to injure, even in the most dishonest manner, any body that belonged in any degree to the enemy's party.

The names of the two young noblemen, at this time at the head of these two parties, were Seaton and Kintair ; the former a youth of a most promising genius and great abilities, joined to great integrity, and an earnest love of virtue ; his hereditary hatred to the Kintairs was, in short, the only thing that could sully his character ; and this he governed in such a manner, that had it not been for the temper of his enemy, the world saw the family quarrel might have been made up between them and a deal of misery and bloodshed prevented to the country ; but such was the implacable hatred and native cruelty of the young Kintair, that all offers of this kind in his life must have been vain, and could only have exposed the goodness of the offerer to the imputations of weakness, cowardice, and fear. The violent Kintair was in his temper bloody, revengeful, pitiless,

and savagely cruel, to a degree scarcely to be conceived; yet all these violent passions, and all his hatred to the Seaton family, could not prevent his falling in love, at first sight with one of that house, indeed the sister, though he at first knew it not, of the very Lord he hated so implacably.

This lady, whose name was Margaret, had not only a very charming person, but the innate virtues of her soul displayed themselves outwardly in her face and whole deportment, and gave her an air and manner not to be resisted; she had a twin sister, so like her in every feature and lineament of face, that they were not easily to be known asunder, these were the only relations of the young Seaton; and with him made all the remainder of that noble and ancient family.

Opportunities of meeting, it is easy to imagine, were not very frequent between these two families, especially between the heads of them: in short, it happened that the rough Kintair had never seen this lady, till one evening as she was returning on horse-back from a visit to a friend at some miles distance, he met her, as he was going across the country, attended by half a dozen servants, to a party of diversion. The moment he beheld her, he stopped his horse, ordered as polite a message as he could dictate to be delivered to her, and begged he might have leave to speak to her: the lady alighted from her horse, and readily admitted him; when he approached her he threw himself upon his knees, entreated her to tell him her condition; and if the laws of honour would permit it, he would make her wife to the first lord of the country, for he was the Lord Kintair.—The lady, who had, till that word, heard him with a downcast look, and a face that covered a blush of modesty, now immediately leaped on her horse again, and told him, “Young lord, few words will answer you, my name is Margaret Seaton.” And, thus saying, pursued her journey.



Words are too faint to describe the conflict of raging passions in the breast of the wild Kintair on this occasion ; love, anger, pride, revenge, the lost hopes of the enjoyment of the lady, and the disdain of a refusal, all combating together in his breast, left him no room at first for words, or for any resolution : he threw himself on the ground ; at length, in a fury, he bid his servants follow and bring her and her attendants back to him ; they had not got far, however, before he changed his opinion ; and thinking of the uncertainty of their success, as the lady's attendants were equal to them in number, and determining to trust his revenge to nobody but himself, he mounted his horse and followed them.

Love and revenge gave him wings ; he soon overtook his own servants, and quickly after, the lady Margaret and her's : he rode up to her and addressed himself to her a second time in these words : " Insolent woman, did you imagine you could escape me thus, and that I would let you go home to make your brother sport with my entreaties, and your refusal ? No ! think not that I would marry the sister of a man I hate ; or be the scandalous means, by a boyish passion, of making up an enmity, which has so just a cause as that between our families ; and which, I hope, will be eternal. There is a shorter way to satiate my desires ; one that gives me too a double pleasure ; as it feeds at once my hatred and my love, and gives me the noblest revenge on all your house, that my hate can even wish." With these words, he gave the signal of murder to his attendants, who destroyed all the unhappy lady's servants, after a short conflict ; during which, the inhuman Lord ravished their mistress. Within a short time after this, though too late, alas ! to prevent it, a large party of the Seatons appeared upon a neighbouring hill : they, however, saw nothing of this ; but the savage ravisher, fearing to be overpowered by numbers, mounted his horse, and, with

his attendants, rode off in haste through the woods. The Seatons passed another way ; and the wretched lady was in a moment left alone, encompassed with the horrors of her own fate, the carcasses of her murdered servants, and the bloody weapons of the murderers, which their haste to get away, on sight of the other party had made them leave. Her first resolution was, to end her life and misery together, by plunging one of the daggers into her bosom ; but force of religion denying, and her own shame preventing her returning home, she came to a resolution of secreting herself from the world for ever ; and picking up the weapons to lay before her, as an eternal remembrance of the horrid scene, she made her way to a distant cottage, where she told her story ; and, giving to the poor honest hinds her money and jewels, swore them to eternal secrecy, and conjured them to let her spend the remainder of a miserable life with them.

The bloody Kintair, as soon as he had got to a place of safety, sat down with his attendants, exulted with them in the success of his monstrous villany, and swore he never tasted the pleasures of revenge before ; he praised their courage, gave them a number of presents, promised them a thousand more, and finally, bound himself in an association with them to make them his companions and friends for ever ; and give them all estates, provided they joined heartily with him in prosecuting a scene of vengeance, which he told them he had now concerted ; and of which this was but the auspicious beginning. All were proud of the honor their Lord did them ; and all with the severest imprecations entered into the association he proposed, of never resting till the family of the Seatons, consisting now of three persons only, should be extinct.

Friends and brothers in revenge, said Kintair on this, hear me now, and know the first step to my design is this : the lady whom I have enjoyed must



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perish ; this must be the first act ; and you shall then see, and be surprized at my concerted vengeance. I had not spared her, but for the party that we saw above us ; but now the desperate attempt must be to seize her again, before she gets home, and kill her on the spot where I enjoyed her : this completes my yet unfinished vengeance on her, and leads you besides to a scene of complicated mischief, with which my brain is full, but which you can yet have no idea of.

The words were no sooner uttered, but all were up, and ready for the enterprize ; and made that haste, that they soon got forwarder than she could have been by that time, had she continued her journey homeward ; here they pitched on a thick wood, through which the road to the castle of the Seaton's lay, and waited for the unfortunate lady. She, poor creature, was otherwise employed than they imagined ; but her sister the lady Jane, unfortunately for her, had the same day been abroad at some little distance, and returning home in the dusk of the evening alone, the villains immediately seized on her, and according to the orders of their lord, carried her to the fatal place where the rape and murders had been committed. It was late in the night before they arrived there ; and the moon shining bright, the distracted Margaret had left her cottage, and wandered to weep her sorrows at the fatal place where the horrid act had been committed ; she was here tossing herself on the ground, and making the rocks and woods resound with her distracted cries, when the murderers approached with their unhappy prey : the trampling of horses, the oaths and blasphemies of the company, and the known voice of the hated Kintar terrified the unfortunate lady Margaret so, that she crept among bushes and thorns which wounded her tender skin, as she past on at every step, till she came to a thicket, behind which she rested to listen to the

noise of these abandoned ruffians. They were now come to the place, and the servants throwing down the unfortunate and mistaken victim of their fury, whose mouth they had before stopped, and tied over with handkerchiefs, to prevent her outcries, no voice was heard but of the savage Kintair, who walking up to her, cried in an insulting tone, “we were prevented, Lady, this morning, but here is now a favour that strikes you to the heart;” with these words he plunged his sword into her bosom, and put an end to her life, without discovering his mistake. As soon as the unfortunate lady fell, the inhuman murderer seating himself on her body, yet struggling in the agonies of death, said to his attendants, “Now, friends, hear the utmost of my intentions; alarm the neighbouring villages with the cries of murder; these other bodies are yet warm, and they shall be made to believe all fell together; I will join in the crowd that comes first, and do you, Farquerson,” speaking to one of his servants, “mount the swiftest horse, and as you see us approach, ride towards Seaton castle, then round the heath, and join us, and you shall be rejoiced at what my revenge shall make of this.” Immediately all separated to the work; and the afflicted lady, Margaret took that opportunity to get back to her cottage; she was scarcely there when the whole country was raised; the bloody Kintair joined the mob; and Farquerson, when they came in sight, fled as he was ordered, before them; Kintair pursued him, with a number of the rustics; and when he was got from them, that monster of wickedness returned, assured and persuaded his followers, that it was Lord Seaton who fled before them. The rustics, willing to shew their discernment, unanimously agreed that they knew him all the way he went, and knew the horse he rode on; and on now viewing the bodies of the murdered persons, the abandoned Kintair persuaded every body, that this Seaton had



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debauched his sister, and brought her hither, where with the assistance of his other servants, he had murdered her and all who were there present. His own people, it is easy to imagine, joined readily in this, and the rest were soon brought over to follow their opinion ; as soon as Kintair found this, he made them a long declamation on the horror of the crime, and persuaded them all to follow him immediately to the next large town, and relate before the magistracy what they had seen. His persuasions, and the rewards he promised to all that would go with him, made every one present follow ; and immediately they set forward, though in the night, and never stopped or stayed till they arrived at the end of their journey. All the way as they went on, the villanous Kintair's attendants extolled the generosity, the goodness, the love of justice their master shewed in this ; and partly by these praises, and partly by the promised reward to all that should be able to give material evidence against the murderers, the rustics, were led into forming a thousand circumstances, all positive against the pretended murderer. When they had arrived at the town, it happened that the magistracy was then sitting : they were all rejoiced at this, and went in a body to the hall ; and demanding (on account of the horrid enormity of the crime, they came to give evidence) an immediate audience, were admitted. The arch-devil, Kintair, entering at their head, recounted to the magistracy the story he had before concerted, and swore to the identity of the person he accused ; his servants all followed his example, and unwilling not to say something from their own knowledge, each singled out some one by name of the innocent Seaton's servants, whom they accused of the murder of the attendants ; and the rustics joining the positive oaths to the same facts, and many other forged circumstances, the absent Seaton and six of his attendants were accused of a most horrid murder, on the

positive oaths of more than thirty persons, who all declared themselves to have been eye witnesses of the facts they alledged against them.

The innocent Lord Seaton knew nothing of any part of this fatal tragedy, but was returning to his castle with some of his servants, from a short journey he had taken to meet his sisters, when he was seized by the officers of justice sent to apprehend him ; all circumstances are construed into meaning by all possessed of an opinion ; and accordingly, this unhappy Lord being now found returning with a number of his servants from that part of the country where the murder had been committed, was looked on as a proof of his having been committing it : and the agonies of grief, astonishment, and horror with which he received the news of the death of his beloved sister and her servants, were construed into confessions of his guilt.

The mistake of the two sisters was not found out ; and the positive oaths of all his accusers that it was the Lady Margaret that was murdered, made it not at all doubted. The unfortunate lady was glad of the mistake, wishing, since the rape, for nothing but to be unknown to the whole world ; and looking on this as the most secure of all the means of being so, would never, had she not afterwards felt the then necessity that compelled her to it, have declared herself to the world.

A short journey brought the accused Lord before the magistracy ; he entered the room before they expected him, and immediately on his appearance, all the accusers renewed their oaths, that he and his attendants who were now with him, were the very persons who had committed the murders ; and the vile Kintair made a long harrangue to the court, aggravating in the strongest manner, the horror of the crime, and adding a thousand reproaches. When he had done, the accused Lord advanced towards his Judges with a settled countenance, and



looking with disdain on his accuser, and on his Judges with that modest but intrepid confidence, which conscious innocence ever gives, spoke in the following manner:—

“MY LORD AND JUDGES,

“View with an impartial eye the conduct of my past life, and you will determine I cannot but be innocent of the horrid crimes I am accused of, and that I am so, be it sufficient that I now in the most solemn manner, affirm it before you.

“Consider that my accuser is the professed enemy of my house and family, and that these who are accused as my accomplices, are the very friends, the fathers and the brothers of my murdered honest servants.

“Is it probable that they could for my sake, be induced to murder these; or that I, who have been known to love my sister Margaret with more than a common affection, could be her murderer? Impossible! think on these circumstances, and weigh them well before ye determine any thing; be not rash or hasty: Ye know not what hereafter may appear.”

Here the accused ended his defence, which was soon overpowered by the number and repeated oaths of the evidences, and particularly of his enemy Kintair, who asserted that he saw him plunge his dagger in the breast of the Lady Margaret, and saw the others butchering her attendants. The supreme Judge was now rising from his seat, to pronounce sentence on the accused Lord and his attendants, when a voice was heard, crying with the utmost earnestness, Forbear! forbear! oh Judge! guard well the doors that none escape; and at the same instant, a lady threw herself at the feet of the Judges, crying out, “I am that Margaret whom the best of brothers is accused of murdering; and look well, whose are these. With these words she threw down the daggers. The court all rose in a

moment, astonished at her appearance ; the brother threw himself into her arms in a transport of joy, and the court examining the daggers, and finding on each the name of its owner, demanded of the lady the true history of the fact. She on this related the whole catastrophe in the most pathetic terms. And when she had heard the sentence, intended for her brother and his servants passed on their accusers, she retired into a nunnery, and left the innocent, but the unhappy Seaton in the possession of his own, and the forfeited estate and titles of his accuser ; which the decendants, the Seatons of that country, enjoy to this day.

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### THREE

#### *Dexterous Thieves.*

THREE rogues in the vicinage of Lan, uniting the ingenuity of their talents, had for a considerable time put both Monks and Laymen under contribution. Two of them were brothers : their names Hamet and Berard. Their father who had followed the same profession, had just finished his career at the gallows. The name of the third was Travers. They never robbed or murdered ; but only pursued the business of pilfering and kidnapping.

As they were walking together one day in the wood of Lan, and talking of their several feats of dexterity, Hamet, the eldest of the two brothers, espied at the top of a tree, a magpie's nest, and saw the mother fly into it. " Brother," said he to Berard, " What would you say to a person that should propose to go and take the eggs from under that bird without alarming it ? " " I should tell him," says the younger brother, " that he was a fool, and



proposed a thing impossible to be done.” “ Well, learn my friend, that he who cannot accomplish so practicable a theft, is but a booby in his profession. Observe me.” This said, he immediately climbs the tree. Having reached the nest, he makes a hole in it, underneath, receives softly in his hands the eggs, as they slip through the opening, and brings them down, desiring his companions to observe, that not a single egg was broken.—“ By my soul,” cries Berard, “ I must allow you to be an incomparable thief, but if you would go and replace the eggs under the mother, as quietly as you have taken them from her, we shall acknowledge you our master.

Hamet accepts the challenge, and again mounts the tree : but his brother designed a trick upon him. The latter, as soon as he sees the other at a certain height, says to Travers, “ You have just been a witness to Hamet’s dexterity, you shall now see what I can do in the same way.” He instantly climbs the tree, and follows his elder brother from branch to branch ; and while his eyes were fixed upon the nest, entirely taken up with his design, and watching every motion of the bird, the slippery rogue loosens his trowsers, and brings them down as a signal of triumph. Hamet in the mean time, contrives to replace all the eggs ; and coming down, looks for the praise due to so clever an exploit. “ O, you want to deceive us,” said Berard, bantering him ; “ I’ll wager that you have concealed the eggs in your trowsers.” The other looks, sees that his trowsers are gone, and soon finds out the trick of his brother. “ Excellent rogue,” says he, “ to out-wit another.”

As for Travers, he was lost in equal admiration of these two heroes, and could not determine which had the advantage. But feeling himself humbled at their superiority, and vexed at not being able to contend with them, cried, “ Friends, you are too



knowing for me. You would escape twenty times when I should be the scape goat. I perceive that I am too awkward to thrive in this business; so I shall go and follow my own trade. I renounce thieving for ever. I have good strong arms, and will return home and live with my wife. With the help of God, I shall be able to procure assistance." He fulfilled his declaration, and returned to the village. His wife loved him; he became an honest man, and set himself to work with so much industry, that at the close of a few months he had earned wherewithal to buy a hog. The animal was fattened at home. At Christmas he killed it; and having hung it in the usual way against the wall, he went into the field.

The two brothers, who had not seen him since their separation, came at this very time to pay him a visit. The wife was alone spinning. She told them that her husband was gone out, and that he would not return till night. With eyes accustomed to examine every thing, you may swear the hog could not escape their notice. "Oh, oh!" said they on going out, "this fellow is about to regale, and did not think us worth inviting. Well we must carry off his pork, and eat it without him." The rogues then laid their plot; and till night should enable them to act, they went and concealed themselves behind a neighbouring hedge.

At night, when Travers returned, his wife told him of the visit she had received. "I was much alarmed," said she, "at being alone with them, they had so suspicious an appearance, that I did not venture to ask either their names or business. But they searched every corner with their eyes; I do not think a single peg escaped their notice."—"Ah! it must have been my two queer companions." "We have still a resource," said the wife: "let us take down the pork, and hide it somewhere for the night. To-morrow morning you may consider what



is to be done." Travers followed his wife's advice. He took down the pork, and laid it down under the bread oven, at the opposite end of the room; after which he lay down, but not with his mind perfectly at ease,

Night being come, the two brothers arrived to accomplish their project; and while the eldest kept watch, Berard began to penetrate the wall in that part where he had seen the pork hanging. But he quickly perceived that nothing was left except the string by which it was suspended. "The bird is flown," said he, "we are come too late." Travers, whom the dread of being robbed, kept awake, thinking he heard a noise, awaked his wife, and ran to the oven to see if the pork was still safe. He found it there; but as he was also apprehensive for his barn and stable, he determined to make the circuit of them; and went out armed with a hatchet. Berard, who heard him go out, took the advantage of that opportunity to pick open the door; approaching the bed and counterfeiting the voice of the husband, "Mary," said he, "the pork is removed from the wall, what have you done with it?" "Do not you remember then, that we put it under the oven," answered the wife; "what, has fear turned your brain?" "No, no," replied the other, "I had only forgot, but stop, I will secure it," In saying which, he lifted the pork upon his shoulders, and ran off.

After having gone his rounds, and carefully visited his doors, Travers returned to the chamber. "I have got a husband," said the woman "who it must be confessed, has a curious head upon his shoulders; to forget one moment what he had done with his pork another." At these words, Travers set up a cry, "I told you they would steal it from me; it is gone and I shall never see it more." Yet as the thieves could not be gone far, he had still some hopes of recovering it; and instantly ran after them.



They had taken to a bye path across the fields that led towards the wood, where they intended to hide their booty. Hamet went before, to secure the way ; and the brother, whose load was a considerable impediment, followed him at a short distance. Travers soon came up with the latter. He saw him plainly and recognized him. " You must be somewhat tired," said he, assuming the voice of the elder brother ; " give me the load, and let me take my turn." Berard, who thought his brother was speaking to him, gave Travers the pork, and walked on. But he had not proceeded an hundred yards, before, to his great astonishment, he fell in with Hamet. " Zounds !" cried he, " I have been ensnared. That rogue, Travers, has taken me in ; but see if I cannot make amends for my folly."

He then strips himself, put his shirt over his clothes, makes himself a kind of woman's cap, and in that trim runs as fast as he can, by another path, to the house of Travers, whose arrival he waits at the door. As he sees him approaching, he comes, appearing as his wife, to meet him, and asks, with a feigned voice, whether he had recovered the pork. " Yes, I have it," answered the husband. " Well, give it me, and run quickly to the stable, for I heard a noise there, and I fear they have broken in." Travers then throws the carcass upon the other's shoulder, and goes once more to make his round. But when he returns to the house, he is surprised to find his wife in bed, crying, and half dead with fear. He then perceives that he has again been cheated. Nevertheless, he was determined not to give out ; and as if his honour was concerned in the adventure, he vowed not to give up the contest, till by some means or other he came off victorious.

He suspected that the thieves, this trip, would hardly take the same road, but he knew the forest was the place they would make for, and accordingly went the shortest way to it. They had in fact



already got there ; and in their triumph and eagerness to taste the fruit of their dexterity, they had just lighted a fire at the foot of an oak, to broil a piece of the meat. The wood was green, and burned but indifferently ; so that to make it blaze they were obliged to go and gather some dry leaves and rotten branches.

Travers, whom the light directed to the thieves, takes the advantage of their distance from their fire. He strips himself entirely, climbs the oak, suspends himself by one arm in the position of a man who had been hanged ; when he saw them returned, and busy in blowing the fire, he roared with a voice like thunder, " Unhappy wretches ! you will come to the same end as me " The two brothers, in confusion, imagine they see and hear their father, and think of nothing but their escape. The other quickly snatches his clothes and his pork, returns in triumph to his wife, and gives an account of his recent victory. She congratulated him on so bold and well executed a manœuvre. " Let us not yet flatter ourselves with too much security," said he. " These queer fellows are not far off ; and as long as the pork subsists, I shall not think it out of danger. But boil some water ; we'll dress it ; and if they return, we shall see what method they will devise to get hold of it again." The one then made a fire, while the other divided the carcass, and put it, piece by piece, into the kettle ; they both then seated themselves to watch it, one on each side of the fire-place.

But Travers, who was almost exhausted for want of rest, and fatigued by the operations of the night, soon began to show a propensity to sleep. " Go and lay yourself down," said his wife, " I will take care of the pot, all is fastened, there is nothing to fear. At all events, if I should hear a noise, I'll give you notice." On this assurance, he threw himself in his clothes upon the bed, and immediately fell fast



asleep. The wife continued for some space of time to watch the cauldron, but drowsiness began to overpower her likewise ; and at last she fell asleep in the chair.

In the mean time our thieves, after recovering from their alarm, had returned to the oak, but finding there neither pork nor man in chains, they easily unravelled the plot. They conceived themselves dishonoured, if in this conflict of stratagems, Travers should finally have the advantage. So they returned to his house, resolved, for the last time, to strain their ingenuity to the utmost.

Before they undertook any thing, Berard looked through the hole he had made in the wall, to see if the enemy were upon their guard. He saw on the one hand, Travers stretched out upon his bed, and on the other the wife, whose head nodded from one side to another, with a ladle in her hand, while the pork was boiling in the cauldron. " They had a mind to save us the trouble of cooking it," said Berard to his brother ; " and indeed it was the least they could do, considering what work they have given us already. Be steady, and rest assured that I will help you to some of it." He then goes and cuts down a long pole, which he sharpens at one end. With this pole he climbs to the roof ; and letting it down through the chimney, sticks it into a piece of pork, and raises it up.

Travers at that instant awakened. He saw the manœuvre, and judged that with such expert enemies peace was preferable to war. " Friends," cried he, " we are both to blame ; you, in breaking through the roof of my house, and I in not inviting you to partake of my pork. Come down, and let us feast together." He went and opened the door to them. They sat down together at table, and were heartily reconciled to each other.



## THE SEASONS.

AMONG the great blessings and wonders of the creation, may be classed the regularities of times and seasons. Immediately after the flood, the sacred promise was made to man, that seed-time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, should continue to the very end of all things. Accordingly in obedience to that promise, the rotation is constantly presenting us with some useful and agreeable alteration ; and all the pleasing novelty of life arises from these natural changes : nor are we less indebted to them for many of its solid comforts. It has been frequently the task of the moralist and poet, to mark, in polished periods, the particular charms and conveniences of every change : and indeed such discriminate observations upon natural variety, cannot be undelightful ; since the blessings which every month brings along with it, is a fresh instance of the wisdom and bounty of that Providence, which regulates the glories of the year. We glow as we contemplate ; we feel a propensity to adore, whilst we enjoy. In the time of seed-sowing, it is the season of *confidence* ; the grain which the husbandman trusts to the bosom of the earth shall, happily, yield its seven-fold rewards. Spring presents us with a scene of lively *expectation*. That which was before sown, begins now to discover signs of successful vegetation. The labourer observes the change, and anticipates the harvest : he watches the progress of nature, and smiles at her influence ; while the man of contemplation walks forth with the evening, amidst the fragrance of flowers, and promises of plenty ; nor returns to his cottage till darkness closes the scene upon his eye. Then cometh the harvest, when the large wish is satisfied, and the granaries of nature are loaded with the means of life, even to a luxury of abundance.

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The powers of language are unequal to the description of this happy season. It is the carnival of nature: sun and shade, coolness and quietude, cheerfulness and melody, love and gratitude, unite to render every scene of summer delightful.—The division of light and darkness is one of the kindest efforts of Omnipotent Wisdom. Day and night yield us contrary blessings; and, at the same time, assist each other, by giving fresh lustre to the delights of both. Amidst the glare of day, and bustle of life, how could we sleep? Amidst the gloom of darkness, how could we labour?

How wise, how benignant then, is the proper division! The hours of light are adapted to activity; and those of darkness to rest. Ere the day is past, exercise and nature prepare us for the pillow: and by the time that the morning returns, we are again able to meet it with a smile. Thus every season has a charm peculiar to itself; and every moment affords some interesting innovation.

MELMOTH.

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### ON THE REGULATION OF DESIRE.

Tho' there should be persons that desire nothing, it is not because nothing is wanting to their station, but because they know how to do without those things they cannot easily obtain. The world is like a fair, where the generality of people walk about, notice various objects and cry, 'What a number of things is here that we want!' Socrates, in the same circumstances, was of a different way of thinking; "What a number of things are here," said he, "which I do not require!" It must not, however, be thence concluded, that Socrates was in want of nothing; but, that he could, very easily, do without what was not in his power to have; while other men are subjected by the loss or absence of such things, to disappointment and chagrin.

*Bigarrures Philosophiques*



## ON ADOPTING

*The Sentiments of the Multitude.*

FROM ZIMMERMAN.

Weak minds always conceive it most safe to adopt the sentiments of the multitude. They never venture to form an opinion on any subject until the majority have decided. These decisions, whether on men or things, they implicitly follow, without giving themselves the trouble to enquire who is right, or on which side truth preponderates.

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*Earthquake at Calabria, in the year 1638.*

AN account of this dreadful earthquake is given by the celebrated Father Kircher. It happened whilst he was on his journey to visit Mount Ætna, and the rest of the wonders that lie towards the South of Italy. Kircher is considered, by scholars, as one of the greatest prodigies of learning.

“ Having hired a boat, in company with four more, (two friars of the order of St Francis, and two seculars,) we launched from the harbour of Messina, in Sicily; and arrived the same day at the promontory of Pelorus. Our destination was for the city of Euphæmia, in Calabria; where we had some business to transact, and where we designed to tarry for some time. However, Providence seemed willing to cross our design; for we were obliged to continue three days at Pelorus, on account of the weather; and though we often put out to sea, yet we were as often driven back. At length, wearied with the delay, we resolved to prosecute our voyage; and although the sea seemed more than usually agitated, we ventured forward. The gulph of Charybdis, which we approached, seemed to whirl round in such a manner, as to form a vast hollow, virging to a point in the centre. Proceeding onward, and turning my

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eyes to *Ætna*, I saw it cast forth large volumes of smoke, of mountainous sizes, which entirely covered the island, and blotted out the very shores from my view. This, together with the dreadful noise, and the sulphurous stench which was strongly perceived, filled me with apprehensions, that some more dreadful calamity was impending. The sea itself seemed to wear a very unusual appearance; they who have seen a lake in a violent shower of rain, covered all over with bubbles, will conceive some idea of its agitations. My surprize was still increased, by the calmness and serenity of the weather; not a breeze, not a cloud, which might be supposed to put all nature thus into motion. I therefore warned my companions that an earthquake was approaching; and after some time, making for the shore with all possible diligence, we landed at *Tropæ*, happy and thankful for having escaped the threatening dangers of the sea,

“But our triumphs at land were of short duration; for we had scarcely arrived at the Jesuit’s College, in that city, when our ears were stunned with a horrid sound, resembling that of an infinite number of chariots, driven fiercely forward; the wheels rattling, and the thongs cracking. Soon after this, a most dreadful earthquake ensued; so that the whole tract upon which we stood, seemed to vibrate, as if we were in the scale of a balance, that continued wavering. This motion, however, soon grew more violent; and being no longer able to keep my legs, I was thrown prostrate upon the ground. In the mean time the universal ruin around me redoubled my amazement. The crash of falling houses, the tottering of towers, and the groans of the dying, all contributed to raise my terror and despair. On every side of me I saw nothing but a scene of ruin; and danger threatening wherever I should fly. I commended myself to God, as my last great refuge. At that hour, O, how vain was every sublunary hap-



piness! Wealth, honour, empire, wisdom, all mere useless sounds, and as empty as the bubbles of the deep! Just standing on the threshold of eternity, nothing but God was my pleasure; and the nearer I approached, I only loved him the more. After some time, however, finding that I remained unhurt, amidst the general concussion, I resolved to venture for safety; and running as fast as I could, I reached the shore. but almost terrified out of my reason. I did not search long here, till I found the boat in which I had landed; and my companions, also, whose terrors were even greater than mine. Our meeting was not of that kind, where every one is desirous of telling his own happy escape, it was silence, and a gloomy dread of impending terrors.

“ Leaving this seat of desolation, we prosecuted our voyage along the coast; and the next day came to Rochetta, where we landed, although the earth still continued in violent agitations. But we had scarcely arrived at our inn, when we were once more obliged to return to the boat; and, in about half an hour, we saw the greater part of the town, and the inn at which we had set up, dashed to the ground, and burying the inhabitants beneath the ruins.

“ In this manner, proceeding onward in our little vessel, finding no safety at land, and yet, from the smallness of our boat, having but a very dangerous continuance at sea, we at length landed at Lopizium, a castle midway between Tropæa and Euphæmia, the city to which, as I said before, we were bound. Here, wherever I turned my eyes, nothing but scenes of ruin and horror appeared; towns and castles levelled to the ground; Strombalo, though at sixty miles distance, belching forth flames in an unusual manner, and with a noise which I could distinctly hear. But my attention was quickly turned from more remote to contiguous danger. The rumbling sound of an approaching earthquake, which we by this time were grown acquainted with, alarmed

us for the consequences ; it every moment seemed to grow louder, and to approach nearer. The place on which we stood now began to shake most dreadfully : so that being unable to stand, my companions and I caught hold of whatever shrub grew next to us, and supported ourselves in that manner.

“ After some time, this violent paroxysm ceasing, we again stood up, in order to prosecute our voyage to Euphæmia, which lay within sight. In the mean time, while we were preparing for this purpose, I turned my eyes towards the city, but could see only a frightful dark cloud, that seemed to rest upon the place. This the more surprised us, as the weather was so very serene. We waited, therefore, till the cloud had passed away ; then turning to look for the city, it was totally sunk. Wonderful to tell ! nothing but a dismal and putrid lake was seen where it stood. We looked about to find some one that could tell us of its sad catastrophe, but could see no person. All was become a melancholy solitude ; a scene of hideous desolation. Thus proceeding pensively along, in quest of some human being that could give us a little information, we at length saw a boy sitting by the shore, and appeared stupified with terror. Of him, therefore, we enquired concerning the fate of the city ; but he could not be prevailed on to give us an answer. We entreated him with every expression of tenderness and pity, to tell us ; but his senses were quite wrapt up in the contemplation of the danger he had escaped. We offered him some victuals, but he seemed to loath the sight. We still persisted in our offices of kindness ; but he only pointed to the place of the city, like one out of his senses ; and then running up into the woods, was never heard of after. Such was the fate of the city of Euphæmia ; and as we continued our melancholy course along the shore, the whole coast, for the space of two hundred miles, presented nothnig but the remains of cities ; and men scattered



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without a habitation, over the fields. Proceeding thus along, we at length ended our distressful voyage, by arriving at Naples, after having escaped a thousand dangers both at sea and land."

GOLDSMITH.

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### *The Bashful Man.*

I labour under a species of distress, which I fear will at length drive me utterly from that society in which I am most ambitious to appear; but I will give you a short sketch of my origin and present situation, by which you will be enabled to judge of my difficulties.

My father was a farmer of no great property, and with no other learning than what he had acquired at a charity-school; but my mother being dead, and I an only child, he determined to give me that advantage, which he fancied would have made him happy, viz. a learned education.—I was sent to a country grammar-school, and from thence to the university, with a view of qualifying me for holy orders. Having but a small allowance from my father, and being naturally of a timid and bashful disposition, I had no opportunity of rubbing off that native awkwardness, which is the fatal cause of all my unhappiness, and which I now begin to fear can never be amended. You must know, that in my person I am tall and thin, with a fair complexion, and light flaxen hair; but of such extreme susceptibility of shame, that on the smallest subject of confusion, my blood all rushes into my cheeks, and I appear a perfect full blown rose. The consciousness of this unhappy failing made me avoid society, and I became enamoured of a college life; particularly when I reflected, that the uncouth manners of my father's

family were little calculated to improve my outward conduct ; I therefore had resolved on living at the university, and taking pupils, when two unexpected events greatly altered the posture of my affairs, viz. my father's death and the arrival of an uncle from the Indies.

This uncle I had very rarely heard my father mention, and it was generally believed that he was long since dead, when he arrived in England only a week too late to close his brother's eyes. I am ashamed to confess, what I believe has been often experienced by those whose education has been better than their parents', that my poor father's ignorance, and vulgar language, had often made me blush to think I was his son ; and at his death I was not inconsolable for the loss of that, which I was not unfrequently ashamed to own. My uncle was but little affected, for he had been separated from his brother more than thirty years, and in that time had acquired a fortune which he used to brag would make a nabob happy ; in short, he had brought over with him the enormous sum of thirty thousand pounds, and upon this he built his hopes of never-ending happiness. While he was planning schemes of greatness and delight, whether the change of climate might affect him, or whatever cause I know not, but he was snatched from his dreams of joy by a short illness, of which he died, leaving me heir to all his property. And now sir, behold me at the age of twenty-five, well stocked with Latin, Greek, and Mathematics, possessed of an ample fortune, but so awkward and unversed in every gentleman-like accomplishment, that I am pointed at by all who see me, as the wealthy, learned clown.

I have lately purchased an estate in the country, which abounds (in what is called) a fashionable neighbourhood ; and, when you reflect on my parentage and uncouth manner, you will hardly think how much my company is courted by the



surrounding families (especially by those who have marriagable daughters;) from these gentlemen I have received familiar calls, and the most pressing invitations, and though I wished to accept their offered friendship, I have repeatedly excused myself under the pretence of not being quite settled; for the truth is, that when I have ridden or walked, with full intention to return their visits, my heart has failed me as I approached their gates, and I have frequently returned homeward, resolving to try again to-morrow.

However, I at length determined to conquer my timidity, and three days ago, accepted of an invitation to dine this day with one, whose open, easy manner, left me no room to doubt a cordial welcome. Sir Thomas Friendly, who lives about two miles distant, is a baronet, with about two thousand pounds a year estate, joining to that I purchased; he has two daughters, both grown up, and living with their mother and a maiden sister of Sir Thomas's, at Friendly-Hall, dependent on their father. Conscious of my unpolished gait, I have for some time past, taken private lessons of a professor, who teaches "grown gentlemen to dance;" and though I at first found wondrous difficulty in the art, he taught me that my knowledge in the mathematics was of prodigious use in teaching me the equilibrium of my body, and the due adjustment of the centre of gravity of the five positions. Having now acquired the art of walking without tottering, and learned to make a bow, I boldly ventured to obey the baronet's invitation to a family dinner, not doubting my new acquirements would enable me to see the ladies with tolerable intrepidity; but alas! how vain are all the hopes of theory, when unsupported by habitual practice! As I approached the house, a dinner bell alarmed my fears, lest I had spoiled the dinner by want of punctuality: impressed with this idea, I blushed the deepest crim-



son, as my name was repeatedly announced by the several livery servants, who ushered me into the library, hardly knowing what or whom I saw; at my first entrance, I summoned all my fortitude, and made my new-learned bow to Lady Friendly, but unfortunately, in bringing back my left foot to the third position, I trod upon the gouty toe of poor Sir Thomas, who had followed close at my heels, to be the nomenclator of the family. The confusion this occasioned in me is hardly to be conceived, since none but bashful men can judge of my distress, and of that description the number I believe is very small. The baronet's politeness by degrees dissipated my concern, and I was astonished to see how far good breeding could enable to suppress his feelings, and to appear with perfect ease, after so painful an accident.

The cheerfulness of her ladyship, and the familiar chat of the young ladies, insensibly led me to throw off my reserve and sheepishness, till at length I ventured to join in conversation, and even to start fresh subjects. The library being richly furnished with books in elegant bindings, I conceived Sir Thomas, to be a man of literature, and ventured to give my opinion concerning the several editions of the Greek classics, in which the baronet's opinion exactly coincided with my own. To this subject I was led, by observing an edition of Xenophon in sixteen volumes, which (as I had never before heard of such a thing) greatly excited my curiosity, and I rose up to examine what it could be: Sir Thomas saw what I was about, and (as I supposed) willing to save me the trouble, rose to take down the book, which made me more eager to prevent him, and hastily laying my hand on the first volume, I pulled it forcibly; but lo! instead of books, a board, which by leather and gilding had been made to look like sixteen volumes, came tumbling down, and unluckily pitched upon a wedgewood ink-stand on the



table under it. In vain did Sir Thomas assure me there was no harm; I saw the ink streaming from an inlaid table on the Turkey carpet, and scarcely knowing what I did, attempted to stop its progress with my cambric handkerchief. In the height of this confusion, we were informed that dinner was served up, and I with joy perceived that the bell which at first had so alarmed my fears, was only the half-hour dinner bell.

In walking through the hall, and a suit of apartments, to the dining room, I had time to collect my scattered senses, and was desired to take my seat between Lady Friendly and her eldest daughter at the table. Since the fall of the wooden Xenophon, my face had been continually burning like a fire-brand, and I was just beginning to recover myself and to feel comfortably cool, when an unlooked-for accident rekindled all my heat and blushes. Having placed my bowl of soup too near the edge of the table in bowing to Miss Dinah, who politely complimented the pattern of my waistcoat, I tumbled the whole of its scalding contents into my lap. In spite of an immediate supply of napkins to wipe the surface of my clothes, my black silk breeches were not stout enough to save me from the painful effects of this sudden fomentation, and for some minutes my legs and thighs felt as if stewing in a boiling cauldron; but recollecting how Sir Thomas had disguised his torture, when I trod upon his toe, I firmly bore my pain in silence, and sat with my lower extremities parboiled, amidst the stifled giggling of the ladies and servants.

I will not relate the several blunders which I made during the first course, or the distress occasioned by my being desired to carve a fowl, or help to various dishes that stood near me; spilling a sauce-boat, and knocking down a salt-cellar; rather let me hasten to the second course, "where fresh disasters overwhelmed me quite."



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I had a piece of rich sweet pudding on my fork, when Miss Louisa Friendly begged to trouble me for a pigeon that stood near me; in my haste, scarcely knowing what I did, I whipped the pudding into my mouth, hot as a burning coal; it was impossible to conceal my agony, my eyes were starting from their sockets. At last, in spite of shame and resolution, I was obliged to drop the cause of torment on my plate. Sir Thomas and the ladies all compassioned my misfortune, and each advised a different application; one recommended oil, another water, but all agreed that wine was best for drawing out the fire, and a glass of sherry was brought me from the sideboard, which I snatched up with eagerness; but oh! how shall I tell the sequel! whether the butler, by accident, mistook, or purposely designed to drive me mad, he gave me the strongest brandy, with which I filled my mouth, already flayed and blistered; totally unused to every kind of ardent spirits, with my tongue, throat, and palate as raw as beef, what could I do? I could not swallow: and clapping my hands upon my mouth, the liquor squirted through my nose and fingers like a fountain, over all the dishes; and I was mortified by bursts of laughter from all quarters. In vain did Sir Thomas reprimand the servants, and Lady Friendly chide her daughters; but the measure of my shame and their diversion was not yet complete. To relieve me from the intolerable state of perspiration which this accident had caused, without considering what I did, I wiped my face with that ill-fated handkerchief, which was still wet from the consequences of the fall of Xenophon, and covered all my features with streaks of ink in every direction. The baronet himself could not support this shock, but joined his lady in the general laugh; while I sprung from the table in despair, rushed out of the room, and ran home in an agony of confusion and disgrace, which the most pious sense of guilt could have excited.



Thus, without having deviated from the path of moral rectitude, I am suffering torments from my misfortunes. The lower half of me has been almost boiled, my tongue and mouth grilled, and I bear the mark of Cain upon my forehead; yet these are but trifling considerations, to the eternal shame I must feel, whenever this adventure shall be mentioned; unless, by your assistance, when my neighbours know how much I suffer on this occasion, they will spare their revilings, and have some feeling for a *bashful man*.

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### *Anecdotes.*

MRS. B—— desired Dr. Johnson to give his opinion on a new work of her's; adding, that if it would not do she begged him to tell her, for she had other *irons* in the fire, and, in case of its not being likely to succeed, she could bring out something else; upon which, the doctor having turned over the work, said, "Then madam, I would advise you to put this where your *irons* are."

One of the new batch of peers lately applied at the Herald's Office, to have that badge of honour, a coat of arms, painted for his coach. Being asked what kind of arms, the answer was, "Something new and smart." But not knowing from what family he sprung, and of course unable to point out any great thing being done by his ancestors, the herald was at a loss how to accommodate him, until he recollected one memorable event of his father, which was, that when a prisoner in *old Ludgate*, he made his escape by means of a rope from a window. The herald to this, said "Did he? Then Sir, you are of an ancient family. You are descended in a direct line from *King Lud*!"

## THE BEGGAR BOY.

When blows the cold and piercing wind,  
And nature's drest in robes of snow,  
And you with friends so free and kind,  
Of winter's blasts do little know :  
In dance and song your hours employ,  
Nor heed the tempest's roar,  
Ah ! think upon the beggar boy,  
That's shiv'ring at your door.

His parents once, like you, were gay.  
Like you enjoy'd their revelry ;  
But intercepted was that ray  
Of mirth—by clouds of penury :  
By dire disease to want brought nigh,  
Their hearts could bear no more,  
They died—and left the beggar boy  
That's shiv'ring at your door !

Say have you known a father's love ?  
Or felt a mother's fost'ring care !  
You have ! O, then let pity move  
Your hearts to once a darling rare !  
The father's life—the mother's joy—  
Than him was none lov'd more—  
Than him who now a beggar boy,  
Stands shiv'ring at your door.

O spare from your luxurious board,  
A morsel small for his relief ;  
A cast-off garment to afford,  
And kindly heal the wounds of grief ;  
Then every blessing men enjoy,  
May you have o'er and o'er ;  
So hopes, so prays the beggar boy,  
Who's shiv'ring at your door !

*H. B. D. "Gentleman's Magazine."*



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## *The Dupe of Love and Friendship ; or the unfortunate Irishman.*

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Founded on a Fact, which happened at Liverpool.

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It has been remarked, and I fear with too much justice, that one of the most pleasing dramatic entertainments which has been produced for at least a century, though abounding in wit and satire against vice, has been accessory to the misleading many of the youth of Great Britain into the commission of a crime, against which both the laws of God and man, are armed with judgment and penalties.

The piece in question may be easily guessed at, when I pronounce Macheath to be the *Sir Clement Cotterel* to Tyburn ; to which, I dare say, he has introduced more English youths, than ever our gentle knight has had an opportunity of presenting foreigners at the court of St. James's. Though perfectly clear in this point, I most sincerely acquit the amiable author of the *Beggar's Opera* of any intention to injure the morals of his countrymen ; but the effects of gilded vices to minds which have not strength enough to beware of the latent poison, must ever be fatal ; and surely there cannot be a more dangerous snare, than to represent a man brave while in the commission of a mean vice, or happy under accumulated guilt and the terrors of the law. Yet stimulated by the apparent jollity, and false ideas of honour and spirit, which are expressed by the Captain and his gang, I am persuaded many young men have taken the highway, who would have shuddered at the idea of becoming knights of the road, if they had never happened to see so familiar a representation of such heroic freebooters.

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What I mean by this preamble, is to strip these figures of their false colouring, to turn the other side of the canvas to the young and heedless, and to shew them the miseries necessarily attendant on vice, to minds that are not totally depraved and irreclaimable.

Some time ago I happened to have some business which occasioned me to go to Liverpool ; and having been formerly acquainted with Mr. Alderman M—, I waited upon him to renew my acquaintance, and was just seated in his drawing-room, when he was called upon to commit a malefactor to prison. As I was myself of the quorum, though not in that district, he did me the honor to permit my attending him in the execution of his judicial office ; and in a few minutes the culprit was brought before us, and charged with having robbed a waggoner of three guineas, while he slept at a little cottage about three miles from Liverpool.

It appeared in the course of the evidence, that the delinquent had taken the money early in the morning, from a purse that contained upwards of £30, and had immediately left the house, unobserved by any one ; and that some hours after, when the theft was discovered, he was met by his pursuers within a few yards of the place, and in the very act of returning towards it again.

This circumstance, joined to the youthful and elegant appearance of the criminal, awakened Mr. M—'s compassion towards him ; and with the voice of mercy, and the look of benevolence, he asked the unhappy youth what he had to say in his defence ? Oppressed with shame, and almost sinking to the earth, the youth replied, " Nothing, Sir ; I have deserved death, and wish to meet it, as an expiation of my crimes. As I am luckily unknown, its infamy and bitterness can only affect myself. I have for some time past, been acquainted with misery, and I trust I shall meet its period with a becoming



fortitude    Excuse me, sir, if I refuse to answer any other questions you may ask me on this occasion, or to use further speech upon a subject I am weary of, my wretched, very wretched self."

No words can furnish the reader with an adequate idea of the effect, which this short, but impassioned discourse produced upon its hearers. Mr. M——'s hand trembled while he signed the criminal's committal, and even the plaintiff blubbered out his sorrow for having, as he termed it, a hand in the lad's life; he was, however, bound over to prosecute, and the culprit was sent to the county gaol.

Beauty in man or woman, is certainly, as queen Elizabeth said, *a letter of recommendation*, and naturally prejudices the beholders in favor of the possessor; but when our sensibility is heightened by seeing it in distress, it becomes almost irresistible. In order, then, that the reader may catch some part of the sympathy I felt towards this unhappy youth, I shall describe his figure and appearance.

He seemed to be about nineteen years of age; tall, slender, perfectly well made; his eyes dark hazel; his nose a little aquiline; a mouth, which, when he spoke, seemed to possess a thousand nameless graces; his cheeks were sun-burnt, but his forehead fair, and adorned with a profusion of the finest auburn hair, which hung undressed and negligent upon his shoulders: add to all these, a countenance expressive of manly sense and spirit, though depressed, joined to an air of elegance and fashion, and I think he wanted not a *zone beneath his ear* to make him appear *an Adonis*.

In vain did Mr M—— or I try to shake the impression which this unfortunate youth had made upon our minds; we could neither think or talk on any other subject; and after we had drank our coffee, he determined to visit him in the prison; to acquaint him with the near approach of his fate, which would probably be terminated at the assizes;



to induce him to discover himself, so far as might aid his humane endeavours, if possible, to preserve his life ; and to see there was no unnecessary severity or inhumanity practised towards him, as a criminal.

These laudable intentions were for a long time frustrated by the invincible silence of the person in whose favour they were designed ; till upon Mr. M——'s repeatedly asking him if he had a father or a mother living, he burst into a torrent of tears, which almost suffocated him, and then exclaimed in all the bitterness of grief, " I had a mother a few months ago, but I perhaps have murdered her ! O spare me, sir, on such a subject, and let my death make a poor atonement, for it is all that is left me."

The clue being once found, the generous M—— pursued the opening track, and so pathetically enlarged upon the anguish which a tender parent must suffer for the untimely death of such a son, as to make him confess he wished to save his mother from that misery, if it were possible ; but as he feared it was not, the only hope which he had now remaining, was, that she might continue ignorant of his fate, and never know the infamy he had entailed upon his name.

The heart that has been hardened by misfortune, is easily softened by kindness ; and the tender attention which Mr. M—— had shewn to this unhappy youth, at length triumphed over his intended reserve, which severity could not have conquered, and prompted him to give the following history of himself :—

" I am a native of Ireland, and the eldest son of a clergyman, whose name was Hartford, who died when I was about twelve years old, and left a brother and two sisters younger than myself. My father was deemed an honour to his profession, both in public and private character, as a man of sense, probity, and learning ; and as the tenderest of



husbands and fathers. My mother too was a pattern of conjugal and maternal love. O why did I degenerate from virtues such as theirs : and become, as I am now, an outcast of society, and a scandal to my name !

“ My father’s livings were very considerable, but the income died with him ; there, however, remained in the family a small paternal estate, of about three hundred pounds a year, which had been portioned out by settlements among us ; and on this, by the prudent economy of my mother, we were all supported in a state of perfect affluence, though not of grandeur : she constantly residing in the country, and giving up her whole time and attention to the care, management, and education of her little family.

“ When I was fifteen years old, I was entered in the college of Dublin, and was informed by my dear and tender mother, that any of the liberal professions were left open to my choice ; and that she would contrive to spare from her slender income, as much as should support me like a gentleman, in the study of any of them which best suited my genius or inclination.

“ For two years I applied myself indefatigably to my studies, and obtained the highest applause from my tutor, and the other fellows of the college ; I however observed that the students rather seemed to dislike and shun me, and frequently used, in derision, to call me the Beardless Monitor. On this account I altered my plan, and became less studious, and of course more dissipated. I soon contracted a friendship with a fellow-student, about three years older than myself, who was the son of a low mechanic, and was what they term a Sizer in that University, who ranks in a station below the gentlemen commoners and pensioners.

“ This young man was an excellent scholar, and possessed of many agreeable qualities ; he sung,

played on the flute, wrote verses, which he often suffered to pass for the productions of those, who had more money and less talents than himself; but with all these pleasing qualifications, he was idle, insincere, and debauched; for ever necessitous from his vices, he attached himself to those who could best supply his wants.

“As my allowance was much too scanty to afford him any pecuniary advantages, I was weak enough to suppose that this friendship for me was totally disinterested, and that Parker (for that was his name) loved me as I did him, with a sincere and generous affection. He introduced me to many females of his acquaintance, and, amongst the rest, to a widow who had two daughters: they were but in low circumstances, and made the scholars’ bands and surplices for their livelihood. The youngest of these, whose name was Maria, was by far the most beautiful and elegant creature that I ever had conversed with; and when my friend and I returned from our first visit, I reproached him with having made me unhappy, by shewing me an object capable of attracting my tenderest regards, when I did not doubt that he had already engaged hers.

“He laughed at my scruples, and solemnly assured me that he had never thrown away a thought upon Maria, and went so far as to say, he did not even think her handsome; and added, if I had no other obstacle to surmount, but his attachment to her, I might render myself happy in her affections, as soon as I could obtain them.

“Though much astonished, I was delighted at his indifference, and daily repeated my visits to this idol of my soul, without daring to ask myself what end I could purpose in this attachment. By degrees I became so totally devoted to my passion, as to neglect my studies entirely; and from having been remarked for the most sedulous and ingenious youth of my standing, I was now continually reprimanded.



manded and admonished for my idleness ; nay, even threatened with expulsion, if I did not amend my conduct.

“ The dissipated scene of life which I was now engaged in, necessarily led me into expences which I could not support. Perpetual parties of pleasure were formed for the entertainment of Maria and her family. Parker was our master of the revels : and while I could raise money at any rate, we indulged in every kind of profusion.

“ At length he observed to me that I was losing my time, and persuaded me to press for the immediate reward of my passion. I started at the idea of injuring the chaste, the tender Maria’s heart, with a proposal unworthy of her : yet, blushing, owned to him, I could not think of marrying her without consulting my mother.

“ He ridiculed me for the mention of marriage, said he was sure the girl had never such a thought ; and that as she was as much in love as I, she perhaps might think she had reason to complain of my coldness. This was the first time I had ever ventured to consider my attachment but in the most serious light ; but he soon furnished me with reasons sufficiently spacious to make me think of it as a mere matter of gallantry. I, however, resolved in my own mind, that if Maria, which I still doubted, should comply with my wishes, I should hold myself as firmly engaged to her as if she was my wife ; and whenever it was in my power, without offending my still honoured parent, I would certainly make her so.

“ Satisfied with this poor salvo, I proceeded to the commission of the greatest crime that a man can be guilty of :—that of robbing an artless young creature of her innocence, under the false pretext of love. Dear injured maid forgive thy vile betrayer ! and may each crime, which since that æra thou hast committed, be visited on me and me alone !”

At this passage, grief for some minutes stopped his utterance; when he recovered his voice, he proceeded thus:

“ I have for some time revelled in the highest delights that man, considered only as a sensual animal, is capable of: yet were there certain compunctions still labouring in my breast, which possessed it with fear: a passion of all others the most destructive to human happiness, and which Providence seems to have placed as an attendant on secret guilt, to render condign punishment almost unnecessary. At length my anxieties were increased by an event, which, in other circumstances, would have added to my enjoyments. Maria weeping told me, that she was with child, and proposed our flying together to some obscure retreat, where she might conceal her infamy.

“ Alarmed for her peace and safety, much more than for my own, I consulted Parker in this new distress; but instead of affording me advice or consolation, he reviled me for the very crime which he himself had prompted; said I was a villain for having seduced an innocent girl, without having the means to support or protect her.

“ Too strong I felt the justice of his charge, either to refute or resent it. After much cruelty of expression on his part, and real sorrow on mine, he said, the only expedient that remained to save Maria's character, or my own, was to obtain money from my mother, upon some pretence or other, and carry off my mistress to England, where she might pass for my wife, and I might easily procure the means of supporting her there; at least till she was brought to bed, and able, as he termed it, to shift for herself.

“ I had already drawn on my mother, for much more than my usual allowance; and though she had not refused my drafts, she had gently hinted that I must not expect any farther indulgence of that kind,



for that it was not in her power to answer my demands, without depriving herself, and the rest of her family, of the necessary means of support. To write to her, therefore, upon this subject, could be of no use ; so that he then proposed my going to see her, and trying what I could obtain by personal persuasion, as our dernier resort. He found me unequal to this act of dissimulation, and therefore offered to accompany me, in order to vouch every thing I should say. I readily accepted his assistance. I wanted a support, indeed, on this occasion ; but it should have been that of truth and honour, and not of a villain to plunge me deeper still in guilt and misery.

“ My ever dear, my tender mother received me with tears of joy ; my sisters and my brother looked like smiling cherubs ; while I, with a whole hell within my breast, appeared to my own conscience like the enemy of man, a serpent in the bowers of Eden. Parker became a favourite with the whole family, his manners being perfectly accommodating, and several days were passed in the most innocent and cheerful amusements.

“ At length I hinted my errand to my mother, who generously told me she would share her last guinea with me, and that she was then luckily able to supply my wants, by having received an arrear of two hundred pounds (an old debt that had been due to my father) a few days before : and added, that she hoped half that sum would make me rich and happy for the present, and that she would be my banker for the remainder.

“ I was transported at her generosity, yet could not find words to express my feelings, from a consciousness that I was on the point of rendering her miserable, in return for her having made me, as she thought, happy.—I communicated this unhopèd for acquisition to Parker, who seemed not satisfied with the moiety, and advised me not to leave the house without the whole.



“ I told him I had rather die, than press so kind a guardian farther. He treated my delicacy with contempt, and said I must soon die, and Maria too, if we had nothing more than that sum to depend upon in a strange country. There was no argument he could use that could prevail on me to make a further demand ; so that at last he proposed that I should take it without her knowledge.

“ I shuddered at so vile a proposal, but he had gained an uncommon influence over my mind. He had a way of hurrying me into his purposes, and by repeatedly dwelling upon the distress which Maria might be exposed to in a foreign land, villain as I am, I at length consented to the deed ; which we perpetrated on the Sunday following, when my mother and her little innocent family were gone to church, and perhaps at that moment were imploring blessings on my guilty head.

“ We reached Dublin with the utmost dispatch our horses could make, and did not stop till we arrived at a tavern in the suburbs, at a place called Ringsend. Parker immediately set out to bring Maria to me, and enquire if there was a ship ready to sail ; for my guilt made me fearful of appearing abroad.—He was a braver villain. During his absence I was overwhelmed with remorse and anguish, and was prompted to confide Maria and half the money to his care, and return with the dishonest part of it home again, and throw myself at my mother’s feet. But my evil genius prevailed ; and the fond idea of Maria’s charms quickly put an end to the thought of quitting her for a moment

“ When she arrived, I embraced her with tears, and told her that my love for her had made me a villain, and rendered me unworthy of hers.—I was hurt at perceiving that she did not seem shocked at the recital of my crime ; but on the contrary, joined with Parker to laugh at my scruples. I soon found



it had been settled between them, that he should accompany our flight. As he was an accomplice in the robbery committed, he thought it not safe to stay behind; and though I allowed the justice of his claim to share our fortune, I would have relinquished the guilty prize with pleasure, to have been relieved from his company, which was now become irksome to me; as he seemed to treat me with the insolence of superiority on all occasions, and continued to lead her in to join in ridiculing my *moral cowardice*, as they chose to call it.

“ We sailed the next day in a packet; and on our arrival at Holyhead, I expressed my concern lest the journey through Wales should fatigue Maria too much, in her present delicate situation. She quickly relieved my apprehensions on that subject, by saying, she thanked Heaven she was not with child, and hoped she never should be.—I felt myself disgusted at her speech; for, exclusive of the deceit she had practised on me, there was something unfeminine in her mode of expression, which took off from the softness of her beauty, and seemed to render her features masculine.

“ I became pensive and reserved during our journey; but on our arrival in London, the variety of new objects which engaged my attention, joined to the soothing blandishments of Maria, though her manners often alarmed me, helped to dispel the gloom, and I soon entered, with all the spirit of dissipation, into the numberless amusements with which that great city abounds. Our finances declined apace, and Maria’s cheerfulness and vivacity seemed to sympathize with their decay.

“ Parker then proposed our making a desperate push, with the last fifty that remained, by trying our fortune at a gaming table. I objected my want of knowledge; which he seemed to think of no consequence, and said that fortune favoured the bold. But when he found that I was not to be prevailed on,



he with the utmost gaiety observed, that there was but one other resource left ; and added, that he was ready to accompany me either to Hounslow, or Bagshot-Heath, the next morning, and wanted to go immediately and provide us pistols for the enterprize.

“ I expressed the utmost horror at this proposal. He grew outrageous at my declining it, called me a half-blooded villain, and said, if I persisted in my refusal, he would turn evidence, and hang me for the robbery I had already committed.—Maria, who was present, interposed between us, and seemed to calm his passion, I quitted the room, and flung myself on my bed, in an agony of grief and rage but little short of distraction.

“ O let no innocent untainted mind believe there can be faith or friendship found, where vice cements the league ! The monster who had betrayed me into guilt of every kind, now threatened to enforce the justice of the laws against the wretch whom he had made a criminal.

“ Maria and Parker walked out together, and left me alone, almost abandoned to despair. When they returned, she came into my chamber and begged I would try to be cheerful, and forget what had passed, as my friend was sincerely sorry for having offended me. She observed that if we continued upon good terms, we might perhaps be able to hit upon some scheme for our mutual support and advantage ; and added, that we were too much in each other's power to part ; at least in anger.

“ I felt the force of her last argument too powerfully to resist, and determined the next day to divide my small stock to the last shilling with Parker, and separate from him, if possible, in peace.

“ We supped together, and Maria appeared uncommonly cheerful and agreeable. We sat up late, and drank more wine than usual. I felt my brain rather intoxicated, and soon fell into a profound



sleep, in which I continued till near eleven o'clock in the morning.

“ When I awoke, I was not surprized at finding myself alone, as Maria used to rise early, and frequently walked in the Park before breakfast. I looked for my watch at the bed's head, where it usually hung, but could not find it ; and upon opening the curtain, I saw my breeches lying on the floor, and the desk where my little all was deposited, standing wide open. I bounced up in the utmost anxiety, without knowing what I had to apprehend. I hurried on my clothes, and ran into the dining-room ; I called Maria, but in vain : I flew back to the desk, and found it empty, my clothes, linen, every thing was gone, excepting those that then covered me.

“ I stared wildly around me, and saw my sword hanging up with a bit of paper pinned to it.

“ I snatched it eagerly, and found these words in Parker's writing : ‘ None but a coward wants the means of living or dying, who has a sword in his hand.’ I gazed alternately at the weapon and the words : and fear I should have completed my crimes, by using it according to the latter of Parker's hints, if the woman in whose house we lodged, had not then tapped at the door. She came in without my speaking, and the moment she entered, I cried out, Where is she ? and burst into a fit of tears. She stood amazed ; but proceeded to inform me, that as my lady had discharged the lodgings, and carried away her trunks, she hoped I would not take it ill if she brought up a gentleman to see the apartments, who wanted to come into them immediately.

“ Without making her any reply, or knowing whither I was going, I ran down stairs, and rushed into the street. I walked or rather flew, like a distracted wretch, for about two hours, without knowing where I was. At length I perceived the children



laughing at me as I passed, and would have followed me, if they had sufficient speed. I then discovered that I had my night cap on, and no hat. Trifling as this circumstance was, in my situation, it recalled my recollection, and I determined to return to my lodgings, and make every possible enquiry after my too fair, but faithless Maria.

“ It was now high noon, and the streets were crowded : I therefore sought to find my way back, by the most unfrequented paths I could pursue, and got into every little alley and court that I saw, without considering their direction. By this means I must have walked about twelve miles ; and in the evening found myself in the fields that led to Mary-le-bone. As it grew dusk, I enquired my way to Suffolk-street. I was laughed at by some, and set wrong by others. However, I at last arrived at our lodging-house about ten o’clock at night.

“ The maid servant, who opened the door, told me that her mistress was not at home, and that our apartments were let the moment we left them, to a gentleman and his servant, and of course there was no room for me. I begged of her to admit me into the parlour, and allow me to sit down, as being quite exhausted with fatigue, and having many questions to ask her. She replied that she had not time to satisfy my enquiries ; and that, as I had thought proper to go off without giving her any thing for her trouble, she did not choose to be at any more upon my account ; and bidding me good night, shut the door upon me.

“ I rapped again, and enquired for my hat. She told me, that whatever was left in the lodgings she had always as a perquisite, and that she had sold it to the gentleman’s valet de chambre who lodged there, as she supposed I was gone to France with the rest of my company, and would never come back to ask questions about such an insignificant article ; and again shut the door in my face.



“ There could not possibly be, in the wildest deserts, a person in a more forlorn state than that which I was reduced to ! yet the passion I still had for Maria, and the strongest resentment which I felt towards Parker, rendered me almost insensible to my own miseries. I continued to walk backwards and forwards in the streets, sometimes leaning against rails to support my sinking weight, while I was able to crawl along.

“ At length quite subdued with weakness and fatigue, I sat down on the steps of a door in the Haymarket, and covered my face with my hands, supporting them on my knees ; unconscious of the dangers I was exposed to, from being found at midnight in such a situation, and so thoroughly absorbed in sorrow, as even to be insensible to the pressing calamities of cold and hunger.

“ I had not long remained in this place, when two females tripped up the steps, and rapped gently at the door. My clothes were of a dark colour, and having contracted my form into so small a compass, that they did not perceive me till the light, which the servant brought to the door, had rendered me visible. Upon discovering me they gave a scream, and one of them hastily asked, Who and what are you ? I made no answer ; but attempting to rise, my strength forsook me, and I sunk down again to the earth.

“ Their fright was still increased by this accident, and they supposed me wounded and dying ; they brought the light nearer to my face, which was pale, wild, and bedewed with tears ; and one of them exclaimed, What a pity it is he should be killed ; ‘ Would to heaven (I answered) that were the case, but I have no outward wounds.’

“ They whispered for a minute, and then came and jointly assisted to raise me from the ground, almost by force, and brought me into the house. They

were both young and handsome ; and by their dress and manner, I easily perceived they were of that unfortunate class of women, whom the villany of our sex, and the virtue of their own have excluded from the benefits of society.

“ They chafed my hands, which were almost benumbed with cold, and forced me to accept of the only refreshments they had to offer, which were bread and a little brandy and water. They expressed an eager curiosity about my situation, which however grateful I was for their kindness, I declined gratifying. After some little consultation between themselves, they told me they would take their maid to bed with them, and that I might, if agreeable, lie down on hers. I refused this offer, and only begged they would leave me a candle, and suffer me to remain where I was till day-break. They at length consented to my request, and retired.

“ I passed the night as I had the day, in a state of distraction ; and waited as impatiently for the morning’s dawn, as if I had hoped it would have brought a period to my misery. I had laid myself across some chairs to rest my limbs, and, notwithstanding the tumult of my mind, insensibly fell asleep. About nine o’clock, my kind, my gentle hostesses awaked, and invited me to breakfast, which I accepted ; and with many thanks for their hospitality, attempted to take my leave.

“ They reminded me of the particularity of my figure, my uncombed locks, soiled features, and bare head, and requested that I would let their servant call a chair or a coach to convey me home, where they were sure my absence must have occasioned infinite anxiety. I started at the name of Home, and answered, Alas ! I have no home, I am an outcast of society !

“ Upon which, these generous unfortunates both at once exclaimed, ‘ Accept of this then till you can



find a better, and we will both protect and serve you.' I was sensible of the highest gratitude towards these unhappy women, but could not be mean enough to accept of farther kindness from them, when I had not the least hope of ever repaying those I had already received.

" I requested they would let their servant go and dispose of my sword, and purchase me a hat of the plainest and coarsest kind. They complied with my desire, and the maid returned with her purchase, and two guineas and some silver in exchange. I instantly offered half my wealth, for the trouble I had given them ; but they peremptorily refused to receive any thing from me, and would not even suffer their servant to attend me to the door, for fear she should be less scrupulous.

" I continued for several days to wander through the streets of London, looking earnestly into every carriage, shop, or window, where I saw a youthful female ; but the beautiful, the elegant form of Maria never again delighted my sad eyes.

" When quite worn out with my fruitless pursuit, I sometimes went into a chop-house in the evening, and called for bread and cheese and a pint of porter ; for as I could form no scheme of obtaining a fresh supply, I endeavoured to husband the little pittance I had left, in the fond hope of still being able to discover the treasure of my soul, and breath out its last sigh before her.

" For such was the love, confidence, and esteem I bore her, that I was apt to suspect my senses, whenever I heard, or saw her speak, or act improperly ; and even this strong marked proceeding of Maria's, raised but grief and astonishment in me at first ; and to this moment I still retain a belief, or hope in my mind, that she could never be a willing accomplice in such a villany, and must have been betrayed from me by deceit, or hurried away by

violence and surprise ; so truly and so fondly does my heart still doat upon her !

“ One day when I had finished my scanty meal, I happened to take up a news-paper which lay before me, and among the articles from Ireland, saw myself described, and a reward offered to any person who should give an account of me to my tender and disconsolate mother, with a full assurance of perfect forgiveness and reconciliation, if I should return. The tears gushed so plentifully from my eyes, on reading this advertisement, that I was obliged to rise, and go out of the house with the utmost precipitation. As I walked along, almost lost in thought, I was unfortunate enough to be involved in a crowd, who were attending a ballad-singer ; and before I could extricate myself from it, my pockets were picked even of my last shilling.

“ I now determined that I would return like the prodigal, implore my mother’s pardon, and intreat her to purchase me a commission in some regiment that was stationed either in America or the Indies, where I was unknown, and where I might have an opportunity of redeeming my character, or of laying down a life which was now become a burden to me.

“ The next morning, as soon as the shops were open, I went into Monmouth-street, and parted with the clothes I had on, in exchange for those I now wear, and received seven shillings as the balance between them. With half this money I bought an additional shirt, and then set out on foot on my way to Ireland.

“ Near Highgate I overtook the waggoner whose prisoner I first appeared before you. At our stopping that night, he asked me to partake of the supper that was provided for him, and others of his fraternity. I then thought it a sumptuous feast, but declined his offer, from my inability to pay the portion ; I was however prevailed on to join the mess ; and when I had discharged my part of the reckoning,



in the morning I had but a single shilling left. I then began to despair of prosecuting my journey, and was often tempted to lay myself down in some lonely spot, and never attempt to rise again.

“The honest waggoner sometimes shared his bread and cheese with me upon the road, and when he saw me faint with fatigue, would let me ride, while he walked by my side and conversed with me. In these conversations he boasted so much of his substance and independence, that I at last ventured to request he would lend me a couple of guineas to carry me over to Dublin. This he refused, but it did not abate his kindness towards me, notwithstanding; for at the last night’s stage he insisted on my supping with him at free cost, which I did.

“When we lay down to rest, I began to ruminate on my miserable situation; I knew I was to part with this man, who had prevented my perishing the preceding week: I felt every honest and grateful sentiment for his kindness; even looked on him as my friend, and yet was tempted to commit the theft with which I am charged, and for which I shall willingly suffer the death I have so justly deserved.

“As soon as I had taken the money I fled as if pursued by millions; but alas! I could not fly from my own thoughts; I loaded myself with abuse, and sounded the words, ungrateful villain, a thousand times in my own ears. In short, no longer able to endure my own reproaches, I determined to return and restore the money, as I found the idea even of perishing for want, less painful than what I suffered from my self-conviction.

“The rest of my story, Sir, you are already acquainted with, but remember, that your humanity, in seeming interested in my distress, and not a mean and contemptible view or desire of prolonging my wretched life, has drawn forth the recital of its misfortunes and miseries; and my sole request now is, that you will conceal my name and family, and

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suffer me to be tried, and take my fate by the name, I have upon this occasion assumed, of Martin."

Mr. M—— said every thing that was possible to relieve the prisoner's mind, and quitted him for that night, after giving orders that he should be released from his irons; and supplied with every necessary of life at his expence. The next morning he sent for the waggoner, who seemed to lament his being bound to prosecute the youth, and said, "He had not a wink of sleep about him all night, and that he should lose twice the value of his recognizance in being detained by the sessions and assizes, and declared he would rather forfeit his surety, if no other evil could come on it, than stay to hang the lad."

This favourable disposition in the waggoner was fondly cherished by my humane friend, who told him that the worst he had to apprehend was the mulct; that fines were often reduced upon consideration of circumstances. that he would speak to the point himself, and take the proper care of him in his absence. Thus did this most excellent Magistrate act in this business, as Providence is sometimes said to do in other cases, by leading second causes so to operate as to effect its purposes, without any manner of constraint upon free will.

This had its desired end: for Dobbin went whistling back with his team to London the next day, and did not return to Liverpool till after the sessions, when the young man was acquitted, as no prosecutor appeared; and on his being discharged from confinement, he was immediately taken home to Mr. M——'s house.

I shall not take up the reader's time with a description of poor Hartford's expressions of gratitude to his humane patron; they were as they ought to be, without bounds; and Mr. M—— seemed resolved to make his goodness to him so likewise; for he thought the saving of his life but half a kindness, unless he should provide him with such means of



subsistence as might prevent his necessities from involving him again in some other guilt or danger of the same kind.

He had him immediately completely clothed, and having (by a little hymn he composed in his confinement, and sent to Mr. M——) found out that he wrote a good hand, he took him into his counting house one morning, as one of his clerks; and placing him at a desk, desired that his first act there should be to write a penitential letter to his mother, intreat her forgiveness, and give her an account of his present situation, but without affording the least hint of the unhappy circumstance which had led to this event.

The young man's behaviour and expressions upon this occasion were remarkable and affecting. He first stood for nearly a minute without the least emotion, then he attempted twice to speak, but could not utter a syllable, till after the more copious language of tears had first expressed his grateful feelings; next throwing himself at his feet, prayed fervently for blessings on his generous benefactor; but at the same time, most earnestly begged leave to decline his proffered kindness.

“I do not in the least suspect myself, said he, notwithstanding my late misfortunes, but I shall be suspected by others; at least my being stationed in this office may afford too great a latitude to the other persons intrusted in it along with me, as their frauds may so obviously be imputable to me; and though ever so honest in my own actions, others might possibly be tempted too far, upon the presumption of screening their trespasses behind my unhappy forfeited character.”

The good sense, prudence, and virtue of the young man's reflections charmed Mr. M——, who sent him out his supercargo of a ship to the West Indies, that he might have an opportunity of recon-

ciling him to himself, by recovering his own confidence and esteem again, by a faithful discharge of his trust.

I am heartily sorry to be obliged to close my narrative here, with an account of this poor unhappy young man's death, which happened soon after his arrival at Jamaica.

He fell into a consumption at sea, and died in the island the day after he had delivered over the cargo according to his consignment; spending his last moments in blessing the generous instrument of providence, who had saved a valuable soul from death, though unable to preserve a worthless body from the grave.

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### *A curious and momentous Calculation.*

The difference between rising every morning at six and at eight, in the course of forty years (supposing a person should go to bed at the same times he otherwise would) amounts to 29,000 hours, or three years, one hundred and twenty one days, six hours; so that it is just the same as if ten years of life (a weighty consideration) were to be added: to which we might command eight hours every day, for the cultivation of our own minds in knowledge and virtue, or the dispatch of business.

This calculation is made without regard to the bessextile, which reduced it to three years, one hundred and eleven days, sixteen hours: and at eight hours a day will want but a month of ten years.



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## A FUNERAL ORATION,

ON

### JOHN PENGs

Of a village near Piritz, in the province of Pomerania, in Germany.

———Passing by a village, I saw a company of peasants, their eyes dejected and wet with tears, who were entering a temple. The sight struck me. I stopped and followed them in. I saw in the middle of the temple the corpse of an old man, in the habit of a peasant, whose white hairs hung down to the ground. The pastor of the village mounted a small eminence, and said,

“ My fellow countrymen,——The man you here see was for ninety years a benefactor to mankind. He was the son of a husbandman, and in infancy, his feeble hands attempted to guide the plough. As soon as his legs could support him, he followed his father in the furrows. When years had given him that strength for which he long wished, he said to his father, “ Cease from your labours:” and from that time, each rising sun has seen him till the ground, sow, plant, and reap the harvest. He has cultivated more than two thousand acres of fresh land. He has planted the vine in all the country round about ; and to him you owe those fruit trees which nourish your village and afford you shelter from the sun. It was not avarice that made him unwearied in his labours ; no, it was the love of industry, for which he was wont to say, man was born ; and the great and sacred belief that God particularly regarded him while cultivating his lands for the nourishment of his children. He married and had twenty-five children. He formed them all to labour and to virtue, and they have all maintained unblemished characters. He has taken care to marry them properly, and led them, with a smiling aspect, to the altar. All his grand-children have

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been brought up in his house ; and you know what a pure unalterable joy dwells upon their countenances. All these brethren love each other, because he loved them, and made them see what pleasure he found in loving them. On days of rejoicing, he was the first to sound the rural instruments ; and his looks, his voice, and gesture, you know, were the signals for universal mirth. You cannot but remember his gaiety, the lively effect of a peaceful mind, and his speeches full of sense and wit : for he had the gift of exercising an ingenious rallery without giving offence. He cherished order from an internal sense he had of virtue. Whom has he ever refused to serve ? When did he shew himself unconcerned at public or private misfortunes ? When was he indifferent in his country's cause ? His heart was devoted to it, in his conversation he constantly wished for its prosperity. When age had bent his body, and his legs trembled under him, you have seen him mount to the summit of a hill, and give lessons of experience to the young husbandmen. His memory was the faithful depository of observations made during the course of fourscore successive years, on the changes of the several seasons. Such a tree, planted by his hand, in such a year, recalled to his memory, the favour or the wrath of Heaven. He had by heart what other men forgot, the fruitful harvests, the deaths and legacies to the poor. He seemed to be endowed with a prophetic spirit, and when he meditated by the light of the moon, he knew with what seeds to enrich his garden. The evening before his death, he said " My children, I am drawing nigh to that Being, who is the Author of all good, whom I have always adored, and in whom I trust. To-morrow prune your pear-trees, and at the setting of the sun, bury me at the head of my grounds." You are now, children, going to place him there, and ought to imitate his example. But, before you inter those white hairs, which have



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so long attracted respect, behold with reverence his hardened hands; behold the honourable marks of his long labours. The orator then held up one of his cold hands. It had acquired twice the usual size by continual labour, and seemed to be invulnerable to the point of the briar, or the edges of the flint. He then respectfully kissed the hand, and all the company followed his example. His children bore him to the grave on three sheaves of corn, and buried him as he desired, placing on his grave, his hedging-bill, his spade, and a plough-share. Ah! cried I, if those men celebrated by Bossuet, Fletcher, Mascaron, and Neuville, had the hundredth part of the virtue of this villager, I would pardon them their pompous and futile eloquence.

*Mem. of the Year 2500.*

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*Good Advice from a Father to a Son.*

—I don't mind your taking a few glasses of wine in company—it cheers and enlivens, promotes mirth, spirit and conversation;—nay—if you can bear it, at those times,—Tom—I don't much mind a whole bottle. But as you value yourself—and as you value my friendship—beware of *t'other bottle*. In all my experience in life, the mischief has been done by *t'other bottle*.—It is *t'other bottle* makes us drunk, quarrelsome, stupid, stay out late, keep bad hours, and bad company, and bad every thing—Therefore, I say again, Tom—beware of *t'other bottle*.

## THE DYING INDIAN.

BY THE REV. JOSEPH WARTON.

The dart of Isdabel prevails ! 'twas dipt  
 In double poison——I shall soon arrive  
 At that blest island, where no tigers spring  
 On heedless hunters ; where ananas bloom  
 Thrice in each moon ; where rivers smoothly glide,  
 Nor thundering torrents whirl the white canoe  
 Down to the sea ; where my forefathers feast  
 Daily on hearts of Spaniards !— O my son !  
 I feel the venom busy in my breast ;  
 Approach, and bring my crown, deck'd with the teeth  
 Of that bold Christian, who first dar'd deflour  
 The virgins of the sun ; and, dire to tell !  
 Robb'd PACHACAMAC's altar of its gems ;  
 I marked the spot where they interr'd this traitor,  
 And once at midnight stole I to his tomb,  
 And tore his carcase from the earth, and left it  
 A prey to poisonous flies. Preserve this crown  
 With sacred secresy : if e'er returns  
 Thy much lov'd mother from the desert woods  
 Where, as I hunted late, I hapless lost her,  
 Cherish her age. Tell her I ne'er have worshipp'd  
 With those that eat their God. And when disease  
 Preys on her languid limbs, then kindly stab her  
 With thine own hands, nor suffer her to linger  
 Like christian cowards, in a life of pain.  
 I go ! great COPAC beckons me ! farewell !

## TRUE BEAUTY,

What is the blooming tincture of the skin,  
 To peace of mind and harmony within ?  
 What the bright sparkling of the finest eye,  
 To the soft soothing of a calm reply !  
 Can comeliness of form, or shade, or air,  
 With comeliness of words or deeds compare ?  
 No—those at first th' unwearied heart may gain.  
 But these, these only can the heart retain.



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*The Country Priest.*

A DIALOGUE

FROM THE FRENCH OF VOLTAIRE.

*Aristus.* So my dear Theotimus, you are going to be a country parson?

*Theotimus* Yes, I have had a small parish conferred upon me, and I like it better than a larger; it is more suited both to my talents and my activity; having but one soul myself, the superintendence and direction of seventy thousand would certainly be too much for me: and I have ever wondered at the daringness of those who have taken on them the care of those immense districts. I cannot, in any tolerable measure, find myself equal to such a charge, a large flock really frightens me, but with a small one I may perhaps do some good. I have a smattering of the law, enough with my careful endeavours to prevent my poor parishioners from ruining each other by litigations; I am so much a physician as to prescribe for them in common cases; and I have so far looked into our best treatises on agriculture, that my advice may sometimes be of service to them. The lord of the manor and his lady are very good sort of people, and no devotees; they will second my endeavours to do good; so that I promise myself a very happy time of it, and that those among whom I am to live will not be injured by my company.

*Arist.* You have a great share of learning, and are likewise master of a nervous eloquence; how do you intend to preach before a congregation of villagers?

*Theot.* As I would before kings. I will insist on morality, and never meddle with controversy. God forbid that I should go about diving into concomitant grace, effectual grace which may be resisted,

sufficient grace which does not suffice ; or examining whether the angels who came to Lot had a body, or only feigned to eat. A thousand things there are which my congregation would not understand, nor could I : my endeavour shall be to make them good, and to be so myself.

*Arist.* You will make a good priest, indeed ! I think I must purchase a country house in your parish. But be so kind as to tell me how you will manage confession ?

*Theot.* Confession is highly beneficial, a strong curb to vice, and a very early institution. It was anciently practised at the celebration of all the mysteries of the church ; and we have imitated and sanctified so devout an observance : it avails greatly, turning resentment and hatred into forgiveness and friendship : by it the petty rogues are induced to restore what they had stolen. I own it has also its inconveniences. There are too many indiscreet confessors, chiefly among the monks, who sometimes teach girls more fooleries than they learn among the young men. In confession there should be no particulars ; it is no juridical interrogatory, but only a sinner's acknowledgment of his faults to the supreme being, before another sinner, who is soon to make the like acknowledgement. This salutary avowal is not made to gratify a frivolous curiosity.

*Arist.* And excommunications ; will you ever proceed to such extremities ?

*Theot.* No ; some rituals excommunicate grasshoppers, sorcerers, and stage-players. Grasshoppers I shall never exclude from my church, for they never come there ; as little shall I excommunicate sorcerers, seeing there are none ; and stage-players being authorised by the magistrates, and pensioned by his Majesty, it would ill become me to brand them with infamy : and to be ingenious, I can with pleasure read a play, when kept within the limits of morality ; such, for instance, as *Athalia* and the



Misanthrope, which contain much good instruction. The lord of our manor has some pieces acted at his seat by young people of a theatrical turn; these exhibitions lead to virtue through the attraction of pleasure, form the taste, and greatly contribute to a just elocution. Now, for my part, in all this I see nothing but what is very innocent, and even very useful; so that I intend, purely for my instruction, to be sometimes a spectator.

*Arist.* The more you let me into your way of thinking, the more desirous am I of becoming your parishioner; but one point remains, which I think of very great importance. How will you do to hinder the peasants from fuddling on the holidays, which, you know, is their chief way of keeping festivals? some overcome by a liquid poison, are seen with their heads drooping almost to their knees, their hands dangling, their sight and hearing lost, in a condition very much beneath beasts; led home reeling by their lamenting wives, incapable of going to work the next day, often sick, and sometimes irrecoverably besotted. Others inflamed by wine, raise quarrels, which soon come to furious blows; and these brutal scenes, a disgrace to human nature, have not seldom been known to end in murder. Now how will you eradicate this execrable custom out of your parish, or at least bring it under some regulation?

*Theot.* I have a remedy at hand; I shall not only give them leave, but exhort them to follow some innocent employment after divine service; and that I will take care to begin very early, for it is their being unemployed on such days which sends them to public-houses; on the working days we hear of no riot or bloodshed. Useful employment is good both for soul and body.

*Arist.* This will be reconciling devotion and industry, and both are of God's appointment; thus

you serve God and do good to your neighbour. But amid our ecclesiastic feuds, which party will you favour?

*Theot.* None. Virtue never occasions any disputes, because it comes from God: all these heart-burnings are about opinions which are the inventions of men.

*Arist.* Excellent! I wish all priests were like you.

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### *An Epitaph.*

Under this stone lies

Chloe.

She was ever sincere in her friendship,  
and constant in her love ;  
amiable in her private, and conspicuous  
in her public character.

She never aimed at grandeur,  
nor despised the needy beggar at the gate ;  
she never said of a friend what she disowned to his face,  
nor fawned to gain the favour of the unworthy.  
She was lineally descended from a favorite of the son  
of a saint and martyr ;

was the fond mother of a numerous offspring,  
and lived to see most of them in  
honourable employments ;  
while others ran mad with party debates,  
she calmly enjoyed peaceful quiet  
at home.

Beloved and esteemed by all while living,  
she died by all regretted.

READER !

One of the brute creation is here lamented,  
" say as much of thy friend if thou canst."

*Manibus date lilia plenis.*



*An Epitaph on a Bird.*

BY ANNA LETITIA BARBAULD.

HERE LIETH,  
aged three months and four days,  
the body of

*Richard Acanthus,*

a young person of unblemished character :  
he was taken in his callow infancy from under the  
wing of a tender parent,  
by the rough and pityless hands of a two legged animal  
without feathers.

Tho' born with a most aspiring disposition  
and unbounded love of freedom,  
he was closely confined in a grated prison,  
and scarcely permitted to view those fields  
to the possession of which he had an ancient and  
undoubted charter.

Deeply sensible of this infringement of his natural  
and unalienable rights,  
he was often heard to petition for redress ;  
not with rude and violent clamours,  
but in the most plaintive notes of harmonious sorrow ;  
at length tired with fruitless efforts to escape,  
his indignant soul

burst the prison which his body could not,  
and left a lifeless heap of beautiful feathers.

READER !

If suffering innocence can hope for retribution,  
deny not to the gentle shade  
of this unfortunate captive,  
the humble, tho' uncertain hope of animating  
some happier form :

or trying his new fledged pinions  
in some fortunate Elysium, beyond the reach of

MAN,

the tyrant of this lower world.

## *The Golden Verses of Pythagoras.*

HONOUR the immortal Gods, conformably to the established laws; and honour an oath: then the memory of departed great men. Honour also the wise and virtuous of living characters; and thy parents and nearest relatives.

Of mankind, make him thy friend who is most virtuous. To all his kind exhortations be ever attentive, and imitate his honourable and useful actions. Be not estranged from him for slight faults; for where necessity urges, our power is considerable.

Accustom thyself to restrain the passions of gluttony, indolence, lust and anger.

Commit no act of dishonour, either in company or in private.

Above all things reverence thyself. Exercise justice in word and deed, and let reason direct the most trifling action of thy life. Remember that to die is the destiny of man; and that riches avail little, for they are acquired to be soon lost.

Whatever evils thou mayest undergo, bear them patiently, endeavouring to discover a remedy. And let this reflection console thee, that fate does not distribute much of evil to good men.

Men apply the art of reasoning to good and bad purposes; listen, therefore, with caution, and be not hasty to admit or reject. If any one assert an untruth, arm thyself with patience, and be silent.

Be careful on every occasion, that thou be not seduced by any one's word or actions; nor ever be influenced to say or do what is wrong.

Think warily before thou actest, that no folly ensue. To speak and act inconsiderately induces misery. Do that of which thou wilt have no cause of repentance.

Engage not in any thing which thou dost not understand.



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Acquire useful knowledge, and thy life will be rendered pleasant.

Be attentive to the preservation of thy health ; observing a proper measure, in drink, meat, and exercise : I mean by measure such a portion of each as will not prejudice thee.

Accustom thyself to a neat and decent way of living, without luxury ; and avoid exciting envy in others.

Do not spend unseasonably, like some who aim at grandeur. Neither be sordid and niggardly ; mediocrity is best in all things.

Injure not thyself by any misconduct, considering well before thou actest.

Close not thy eye-lids till thou hast reviewed the transactions of the past day. In what respect have I acted wrong ? How have I been employed ? What have I neglected to do ? Begin in this manner, from thy first action, and proceed. If thou hast acquitted thyself ill, be afflicted ; if well, rejoice.

Labour in these things ; meditate on them, love them. They will lead thee into the path of true virtue. Then proceed to thy work, having prayed to the Gods that thou mayest finish it.

When this habit is become familiar to thee, thou wilt perceive the constitution of the immortal Gods, and of mortal men ; even the extent of being, and in what manner it exists. Thou wilt perceive that nature in her operations is uniform, and thou wilt expect only what is possible. Thou wilt perceive that mankind willingly draw upon themselves evil. Wretches ! they neither see nor understand what it is wise to prefer ; and when entangled, are ignorant of the means of escape. Such is the destiny of man. They are subjected to evils without end, and are agitated incessantly, like rolling stones. A fatal contention ever secretly pursues them, which they neither endeavour to subdue, nor yield to.

Great Jove ! Father of Men ! O free them from those evils, or discover to them the demon they

employ ? But be of good cheer, for the race of man is divine. Nature discovers to them her hidden mysteries, in which, if thou art interested, and attain this knowledge, thou wilt obtain with ease, all I enjoin ; and having healed thy soul, thou wilt preserve it from evil.

Abstain, moreover, from those unclean and foul meats which are forbidden, keeping thy body pure, and thy soul free.

Consider all things well, governing thyself by reason, and setting it in the uppermost place. And when thou art divested of thy mortal body, and arrivest in the most pure æther, thou shalt be exalted among the immortal Gods, be incorruptible, and never more know death.

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### *The Expeditious Painter.*

A certain nobleman having built a chapel, had a mind the stair-case leading to it should be ornamented with some scripture history, which he at last determined should be the Children of Israel passing through the Red Sea, and the Egyptians pursuing them.—A painter was employed on this occasion, and fell to work immediately ; and after he had daubed the wall from top to bottom with red paint, he called to his Lordship and told him the work was done.—Done ! quoth the peer,—What's done ? Where are the Children of Israel ? My Lord, they are gone over, replied the painter.—But zounds ! where are the Egyptians then ? The Egyptians, my Lord ? why they are drowned to be sure !